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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

SEQUENCE BOX:

Jean-Noel TELLES et al.

Application No.: 09/980,777

Filed: February 20, 2002

Docket No.:

111380

For:

SEARCH METHOD FOR RESISTANCE TO ANTI-PROTEASES OF A STRAIN OF

THE HIV-2 VIRUS FROM A BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE TAKEN FROM A PATIENT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Notification of Missing Requirements mailed February 5, 2002, and after entry of the Annexes to the IPER, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At the end of the application, please insert the attached paper and computer-readable Sequence Listing.

Please replace paragraph [0050] as follows:

[0050] The protease gene was retrotranscribed from 10 microliters of viral RNA solution and amplified with the Titan One Tube RT-PCR kit (Roche Molecular Diagnostics). Reverse transcription and the first amplification were done with the 3' Prot and 5' RT 3 primers (see below). The reaction at 50°C for 30 minutes was followed by a denaturing step at 94°C for 5 minutes then 40 cycles (30 seconds at 94°C, 30 seconds at 55°C, 90 seconds at 68° C), and finally at 68°C for 7 minutes. The step PCR stage was done with 5 microliters of the product of the first stage with primers 3' RTD and 5' Prot 2.1, with 5 minutes denaturing at 94°C, followed by 30 cycles (30 seconds at 94° C, followed by 30 cycles at 55°C, and 30 seconds at 72° C) and finally 10 minutes at 72°C. The primer sequence is the following:

